

City of Buxton
Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2023 @ 7:00 PM
Buxton Fire Hall

Present: Travis Soderberg, Jeff Siewert, Holly Aamold, Keaton Flanagan and Cole Short

Recording: Jackie Siewert, Auditor

Meeting called to order by Mayor Travis Soderberg

Meeting minutes from the June 14, 2023 meeting were read. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Keaton Flanagan seconded by Jeff Siewert; motion passed unanimous.

The following bills were presented for payment:

Direct	Waste Management	\$4001.20
Direct	Xcel Energy	\$977.84
Direct	Visa	\$167.98
12836	Buxton Park Board	\$10000.00
12837	A2Z Road Blading	\$307.00
12838	East Central Regional Water Dist	\$242.39
12839	Farmers Union Oil Co	\$436.06
12840	Florians & Sons	\$800.00
12841	Full Service Insurance Agency	\$71.00
12842	Midco	\$48.79
12843	ND League of Cities	\$602.00
12844	Thomas Moe	\$150.00
12845	Traill County Auditor	\$750.00
12846	Travis Soderberg	\$321.49
12847	True North Equipment	\$95.83
12848	Van Diest Supply Company	\$1375.00
12849	Xcel Energy	\$18.84
12850	Ben Hershey	\$203.17
12851	Holly Aamold	\$203.17
12852	Jaqueline Siewert	\$1385.25
12853	Jeff Siewert	\$203.17
12854	Keaton Flanagan	\$203.17
12855	Travis Soderberg	\$923.50
12856	Travis Soderberg	\$107.23

Jeff Siewert motioned to approve the bills, Holly Aamold seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, reviewed the current year to date budget comparison.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, presented the council with a 2024 budget draft. The council reviewed the budget and discussed a few changes. Jackie Siewert will make the discussed adjustments and present the council with the updated budget at the August council meeting for final approval.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he reached out to a few fencing companies for a quote on replacing the existing fence around the lagoon. A rough estimate the cost would be approximately \$70,000.00 and \$10,000 - \$12,000 for the removal of the existing fence. The fence is not in immediate need of being replaced but Mayor Soderberg wanted the council to keep this in mind for future expenditures. Mayor Soderberg also stated that he will reach out to more companies for additional quotes.

Mayor Soderberg presented the council with two quotes and several design options for new city banners printed on a poly acrylic canvas versus a weather guard canvas. It was learned that in order to go with the more durable weather guard banner it would need to be screen printed and limited to three colors and also limits the design choices. Poly acrylic canvas would be the next best option. It can be digitally printed and many more color and design options. A quote was received from Holiday Décor for 8 banners for \$1300.60 and Display Sales for 8 banners for \$1426.00. After reviewing the design options, Holly Aamold suggested to go with 2 designs (4 banners of each). Holly Aamold made a motion to purchase to eight banners (2 of each design) from Holiday Décor; Jeff Siewert seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he received a quote from Stewart Signs for an electronic 2-sided sign for \$20,032.00 which also includes the software for programming the sign. It does not clearly state if installation is included or not. Mayor Soderberg will reach out to Stewart Signs and verify if installation is included and if there are color choices for the base and frame of the sign,

Mayor Soderberg presented the council with an updated quote for the bobcat tool cat. This quote included a snow blower whereas the previous quote did not. Ironhide Equipment brought a used bobcat to Buxton earlier in the day for the council to take a look at prior to the meeting. The council discussed the pros and cons. It is much bigger and heavier than the gator. A concern is will it get stuck spraying for mosquitoes if the ground is too soft. Also it isn't functional for trimming. It doesn't have the ease of getting on and off. The biggest pros are is the enclosed cab and the attachments. The bucket would be beneficial for pushing up the tree and mulch piles. The snow blower would be beneficial for clearing the sidewalks and emergency snow removal if needed. Jackie Siewert, city auditor, will verify with Eric Gunderson if any additional insurance would be needed for drivers. The council will discuss further at the August meeting.

Mayor Soderberg re-confirmed that we are still planning a roll-off in mid-September for fall clean-up.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the basketball court concrete will be poured tomorrow (7/13) and will be able to be walked on by BIG day. There will be no pickle ball inserts. The Park Board decided that the inserts and caps wouldn't be functional for basketball. The basketball hoops will be installed after Big Day.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the generator has been delivered. The concrete will be poured tomorrow (7/13). The pad set-up did change some after learning that the LP tank has to be 10 feet away from the generator. The LP tank will now be outside of the fence. Portland Farmers Union will trench the LP line in and install the tank.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that Sentry Siren technician is scheduled to be here in two weeks. Jackie Siewert confirmed that the new control box and timer have been received.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that the trailer at 804 Neill Street has been sold to Paul Nelson of Nelson Homes Inc. His plan is to sell the mobile home where it is but will move it if need be.

Mayor Soderberg finished building a 275-gallon portable water tank trailer. He turned his receipts in for reimbursement.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the west Welcome sign shrubs died. All Seasons told him that there is no warranty on winter kill. They suggest if we re-planted the same shrub to wrap it for the winter. Instead, Travis bought and planted two ninebark fireside bushes to replace the shrubs. Also, Holly Aamold had noticed that the west Welcome wasn't lit. Waslien Electric said that the breaker was tripped. Kirk Waslien replaced the GFI and photo cell.

Mayor Soderberg told the council that an aerial spray for mosquitoes was done last night (7/12) in preparation of BIG Day. Mayor Soderberg also stated that he will probably fog one more night before BIG Day.

Mayor Soderberg stated that he will try the crack sealer after BIG Day. He is also planning on cleaning up the old city lot. There are several branches that need to be cleaned up.

Mayor Soderberg stated that some tree trimming was done at the corner of County Road 21 and Ives Street. Keaton Flanagan stated that some more could be done but is better than it was before. We will continue to monitor it.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that she did confirm with Eric Gunderson that BIG day event is covered under the city's insurance. She also confirmed that she authorized the increase of the City's liability coverage with the North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund from one million to two million per new state guidelines.

Mayor Soderberg stated that a resident was questioning the recent parking of a semi on the north end residential streets. Jackie Siewert contacted the owner of the rental home and told them to let the current tenant know truck parking is not allowed on residential streets and to park the unloaded semi on Broadway.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that she had received a letter from Nilson Brand Law notifying of a rate increase.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that there were two residents that report missed garbage pick-ups. Jackie emailed Waste Management to confirm a suggested time to have garbage cans out for pick-up. Waste Management advises all residents to have garbage containers out no later than 7am to ensure garbage pick-up.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, was asked by a member of the Buxton Town and Country group to mention the availability of the Homestead Property Tax Credit for residents 65 and over.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he spoke to Dennis Riedhammer, owner of the old hardware store, about future plans and progress of his renovations and general clean-up of the property. To date there has been minimal work or clean-up done. Mayor Soderberg stated that we need to inquire with our attorney about beginning the process of having the building condemned.

Mayor Soderberg confirmed the next city council meeting will be held August 9, 2023 at 7pm at the Buxton Fire Hall.

Jeff Siewert made a motion to adjourn; Keaton Flanagan seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

City Auditor

Council Member

Mayor